JAN 2 0 2004 PARTY COMMENTS

Approved for use through 04/30/2003, OMB 0651-0032 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE ACTION FOR UTILITY OR DESIGN Approved for use through 04/30/2003, OMB 0651-0032 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE OMADO1-US1 Electric Action of Information unless it contains a valid OMB control number. ACTION FOR UTILITY OR Electric Action of Information United States and In **DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR** DESIGN PATENT APPLICATION COMPLETE IF KNOWN (37 CFR 1.63) **Application Number** Filing Date Declaration Declaration Aug 19, 2003 Submitted OR Submitted after Initial Art Unit With Initial Filing (surcharge (37 CFR 1.16 (e)) Filing Examiner Name Unknown required)

| I hereby declare that: | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|---|----------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Each inventor's residence, mailing address, and citizenship are as stated below next to their name. | | | | | | | | | | |
| I believe the inventor(s) named below to be the original and first inventor(s) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: | | | | | | | | | | |
| APPARATUS AND METHOD FO | | | OR DUCT | | | | | | | |
| (Title of the Invention) | | | | | | | | | | |
| the specification of which | | • | | | | | | | | |
| is attached hereto | | | | | | | | | | |
| OR | | | | | | | | | | |
| was filed on (MM/DD/Y | m Ø8 | /19/2003 as Uni | ted States Application N | umber or PCT International | | | | | | |
| Application Number | 644,599 | and was amended on (MM/I | ספאיייי) | (if applicable). | | | | | | |
| I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as | | | | | | | | | | |
| amended by any amendment specifically referred to above. | | | | | | | | | | |
| I acknowledge the duty to dis | sclose informa | tion which is material to nat | entability as defined in | 37 CER 1.58 including for | | | | | | |
| I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application | | | | | | | | | | |
| and the national or PCT intern | | | | | | | | | | |
| I hereby claim foreign priority inventor's or plant breeder's ri | openents unde ants certificate | r 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or (f) (s), or 365(a) of any PCT inte | , or 365(b) of any foreign | in application(s) for patent, | | | | | | |
| country other than the United : | States of Amer | ica, listed below and have als | so identified below, by cl | necking the box, any foreign | | | | | | |
| application for patent, inventor | 's or plant bree | ider's rights certificate(s), or a | iny PCT international ap | plication having a filing date | | | | | | |
| before that of the application o Prior Foreign Application | n which priority | | Datada | D | | | | | | |
| Number(s) | Country | Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY) | Priority Not Claimed | Certified Copy Attached? | | | | | | |
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| Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto. | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dept. 1.40 | | | | | | | | | | |

[Page 1 of 2]

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 115 and 37 CFR 1.63. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 21 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form endor suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.



PTO/SB/01 (05-03)
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DECLARATION — Utility or D sign Patent Application

| Direct all correspondence to: | Custome or Bar Co | r Number | | | | OR [| र ० | Corresp | ondence address below | |
|---|---------------------|--------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|------------|-------------|-----------|----------------------------|--|
| Name Jonathan Spangler c/o PortofolioIP | | | | | | | | | | |
| Address P.O. Box 52050 | | | | | | | | | | |
| City Minneapolis | | | | State MN | | | | | ZIP 55402 | |
| Country US Tele | | | elephone 858-243-0029 Fax | | | | | | | |
| I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon. | | | | | | | | | | |
| NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR: A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor | | | | | | | | | | |
| Given Name Walid Najib (first and middle [if any]) | | | | Family Name About- or Surname | | | me A | | | |
| Inventor's Signature Walk About World | | | | | Date 1/11/04 | | | | | |
| Residence: City Fair Oaks | State CA | 7 | | Country US Citizer | | | nship US | | | |
| Mailing Address 4625 Chicago Avenue | | | | | | | | | | |
| City Fair Oaks | State CA | | | | ZIP : | 95628 | | | Country US | |
| NAME OF SECOND INVENTO | R: | | | | A pe | etition ha | s beer | n filed f | for this unsigned inventor | |
| Given Name (first and middle [if any]) | | | | | Family Name or Sumame | | | | | |
| Inventor's Signature | | | | | | | | | Date | |
| Residence: City | State | | | Country | | | Citizenship | | | |
| Mailing Address | | | | | | | | | | |
| City | State | | ZIP | | | Country | | | | |
| Additional Inventors or a legal re | presentative are be | ing named on | 1 the | suppleme | ental she | et(s) PTO/ | SB/02A | or OZLR | attached hereto. | |